

# Historic Preservation in Michigan



## The rehabilitation of 601 Martin Luther King, Flint



Flint Neighborhood Improvement and Preservation Project, Inc.; the Protogenia Group, LLC; Siwek Construction; Gazall, Lewis & Associates Architects, Inc.; Kidorf Preservation Consulting; Perry Compton; and David White

Looking at Flint's Witherbee's Market today, you would never recognize it as the vacant structure that stood at 601 Martin Luther King for so long. Established to serve the Carriage Town neighborhood and the city at large, Witherbee's is the first grocery in Flint in more than thirty years.

The building, which was built in 1928 as a service station, was rehabilitated with the help of a \$135,000 Cities of Promise Cool Cities grant and State Historic Preservation Tax Credits, and it represents an investment of nearly \$1.1 million, leading to the creation of 24 jobs.

The project is a 'billboard of change' in Flint and exemplifies what can happen when private citizens, business, and local and state agencies collaborate.